Fort Benning, Home of the MCoE

2011 Reconnaissance Summit
HBCT Back brief

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BG Ted Martin

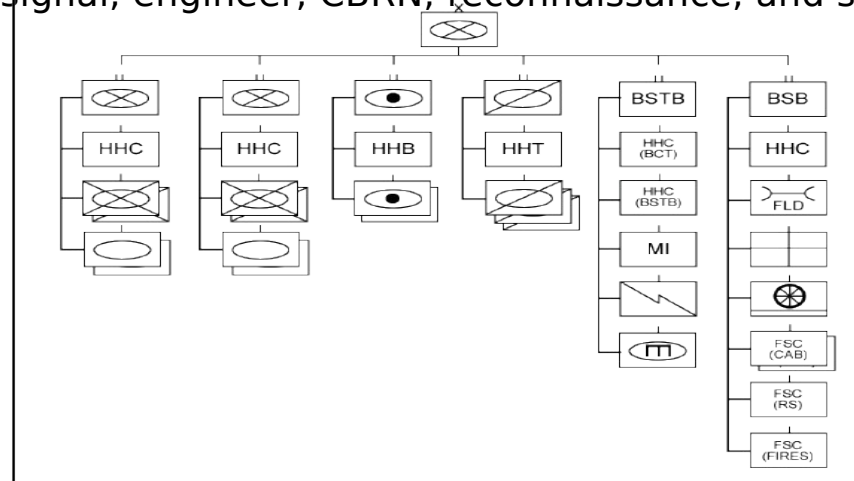*uver Center of Excellence - Team of Soldiers, Families, and Civilians from the Best Army in the World!*

- 1-31. HBCTs are balanced combined arms units that execute operations with shock and speed (Figure 1-2). Their main battle tanks, self-propelled artillery, and fighting vehicle-mounted Infantry provide tremendous striking power. HBCTs require significant strategic airlift and sealift to deploy and sustain. Their fuel consumption may limit operational reach. However, the HBCT's unmatched tactical mobility and firepower offset this. HBCTs include organic military intelligence, military police, artillery, signal, engineer, CBRN, reconnaissance, and sustainment capabilities.

FM 3-90.6

- 1-33. The reconnaissance squadron's fundamental role is to perform reconnaissance. As the "eyes and ears" of the HBCT commander, the reconnaissance squadron provides the combat information that enables the commander to develop situational understanding (SU), make better and quicker plans and decisions, and visualize and direct operations to provide accurate and timely information across the area of operations (AO). It also has the capability to defend itself against most threats. The reconnaissance squadrons is composed of four troops: one headquarters and headquarters troop (HHT) and three ground reconnaissance troops equipped with M3 cavalry fighting vehicles (CFV) and armored wheeled vehicles. In large AOs, aerial reconnaissance assets usually are attached or placed under operational control to the squadron to extend is surveillance range. FM 3-20.96 provides the basic doctrinal principles, tactics, and techniques of employment, organization and tactical operations appropriate to the squadron.

WAS/CAM
HBCT Reconnaissance Emerging Insights

• Require common reconnaissance platforms with increased mobility, protection, & precision
  engagement

• Increased requirement for Engineer/EOD capability in reconnaissance organizations

• Capability to conduct reconnaissance across wide areas with sufficient depth to enable
  flexibility

• Capability to develop shared understanding down to dismounted reconnaissance elements

• Increased organizational flexibility through balance of manned/unmanned capabilities

• Mounted and dismounted capability for non-lethal/less than lethal force

• Requirement for ethically astute soldiers & leaders to mitigate complexity, ambiguity, lethality
  of Operational Environment (OE)

• Increased requirement for HUMINT in support of reconnaissance during

Doctrine

Issue: Current reconnaissance doctrine must evolve to enable reconnaissance and security operations in support of WAS/CAM in OE characterized by hybrid threats

- Requirement/role for chief of reconnaissance?
- Air-ground integration
- Include IED defeat in FM 3-20.96, *Reconnaissance and Cavalry Squadron*
- Hybrid threats use of technology to create/exploit ethical dilemmas

Recommendation: Holistic review of reconnaissance doctrine to determine adequacy to support reconnaissance in CAM/WAS in operational environments characterized by hybrid threats

Organization

Issue: HBCT Reconnaissance Squadron is not optimized to support WAS/CAM

- Insufficient dismounted recon capability to conduct surveillance and interact with
  local officials

- Limited unmanned capabilities and no non-lethal capability

- Expand horizontal/vertical info sharing down to dismounted scouts (UAS,
  HUMINT, etc)

- Reserve? Can this be addressed through manned/unmanned teaming?

- Does WAS/CAM and the complexity of the OE require a different
  grade/experience for reconnaissance leaders?

Recommendation: Review of HBCT Reconnaissance Squadron structure to determine organizational changes required to conduct reconnaissance and security in complex and uncertain future operational environments.

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Issue: Requirement for enhanced simulation (V-C-G) to support training in complex operating environments.

- Tailorable V-C-G simulation capabilities to replicate the uncertainty and complexity of the operational environment (SIGINT, HUMINT, cultural sensitivities)

- Avatar capable virtual & gaming simulations to train cultural awareness and use of interpreters

Recommendation: Update virtual, constructive and gaming simulations to support the development of adaptive leaders.

Training (2/2)

Issue: leader requirements for WAS/CAM require revisions and adaptations to institutional training

- Replace demolition training with IED/coutner IED training in OES/NCOES for recon
    soldiers/leaders
- WAS/CAM requires higher level of proficiency with digital systems
- Air/ground integration training @ company level & below
- Leaders must anticipate/mitigate the effects of adverse information (social media,
    television, internet) as a function of planning/executing operations

Recommendation: Review and update institutional training to support revisions to reconnaissance doctrine to better prepare leaders to confront the challenges WAS/CAM.

Joe Smith
Edit My Profile

News Feed

Messages

Events 3

Friends 2

Confident Self I...

Create Group...

See All

App Requests 1

Games

More

You are currently offline. To chat with your friends, go online.

News Feed

Top News · Most Recent

Share: Status Photo Link Video

What's on your mind?

Joe Smith
Things got out of control today, we shot up a village.

26 minutes ago via Android · Unlike · Comment · Share

Janey Wilson Oh no, is everyone ok?
19 hours ago · Unlike · 2 people

Joe Smith Yeah, we're good, but we dropped the hammer on those terrorists.
18 hours ago · Like

Bob Snow Man, you can't put stuff like this on facebook, you're gonna get busted big time. Better erase it before 1SG sees it.
18 hours ago · Like

Joe Smith Its totally cool, the LT was there, he said we were good. I'm not sweatin it

Leader Development

Issue: Expand leader development to prepare leaders for the moral and ethical challenges associated with reconnaissance operations in WAS/CAM.

- How do we adapt our leader development model to expose leaders to the moral
  and ethical challenges posed by hybrid threats?
- How do we integrate and train mission command as a function of leader
  development?

Recommendation: Review/update existing leader development models to better prepare leaders to operate effectively amidst the challenges and demands of WAS/CAM.